



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Thomas Bader

SERIAL NO.: 10/789,120

FILED : February 27, 2004

FOR : HOLDING DEVICE FOR A FASTENING ELEMENT

EXAMINER: Hadi Shakeri GROUP: 3723

Mail Stop: RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR §114

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated May 2, 2006, in which the Examiner rejects claims 2-19 for allegedly being indefinite, as well as claims 2-6 and 10-11 as being unpatentable over the prior art, and indicates the claims 7-9 and 12-18 would become allowable upon having been rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The Examiner's indication of the allowability of claims 7-9 and 12-18 has been duly noted and appreciated. However, applicant believes that rewriting claims 7-9 and 12-18 in independent form (claim 6) is not necessary as they depend on a claim (claim 19) earnestly believed to be allowable over the prior art.